



GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Advanced Quantifiers in Environmental Issues

Environment and Conservation | a number of, a great deal of, hardly any | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner. You may already use this grammar without noticing it.

No.	Question
1	How can you say 'many people' in a more formal way?
2	What environmental problem causes a great deal of damage?
3	Where is there hardly any green space in some cities?
4	Why are quantifiers useful in reports?

2. Grammar in context

Read the text. The bold phrases show the grammar used in a natural topic context.

Describing Environmental Scale

A number of cities have introduced recycling schemes to reduce waste. These programmes can save **a great deal of** energy if people use them properly.

In some urban areas, there is **hardly any** green space, so residents have fewer places to exercise or relax. Several communities are now creating small gardens on unused land.

Climate change affects **a large amount of** farmland, especially in areas with extreme weather. **A number of** charities are supporting farmers with new equipment and advice.

3. Notice the pattern

Use advanced quantifiers to describe amount and scale more precisely in formal writing.

Use	Form / signal	Example
A number of	plural countable noun	A number of cities have introduced recycling.
A great deal of	uncountable noun	It saves a great deal of energy.
Hardly any	very little/few	There is hardly any green space.
A large amount of	uncountable noun	Climate change affects a large amount of farmland.

4. Build accurate sentences

Complete each sentence using the grammar focus. Then write two examples of your own.

No.	Prompt	Use	Your answer
1	/ cities have introduced recycling schemes.	A number of	
2	Recycling can save / energy.	a great deal of	
3	There is / green space in some areas.	hardly any	
4	Flooding affects / farmland.	a large amount of	

1. _____

2. _____

5. Use it in exam answers

Complete the tasks using the grammar focus naturally.

Task	What to do
Speaking	Discuss the scale of environmental problems using advanced quantifiers.
Writing	Write a report paragraph about an environmental issue using at least four quantifiers.
Reading	Underline advanced quantifiers in the context text and identify the noun after each one.

6. Common mistakes

Correct the mistakes.

No.	Mistake	Your correction
1	A number of city has recycling schemes.	
2	It saves a great deal of resources.	
3	There are hardly any green space.	
4	Flooding affects a large amount of farms.	

7. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

1. Do cities have enough green space?
2. Which environmental problem causes a great deal of damage?
3. How can schools reduce a large amount of waste?
4. Why do reports need precise language about quantity?

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4. Build accurate sentences

1. A number of cities have introduced recycling schemes.
2. Recycling can save a great deal of energy.
3. There is hardly any green space in some areas.
4. Flooding affects a large amount of farmland.

Own answers will vary. Check that the grammar focus is accurate and natural.

6. Common mistakes

1. A number of cities have recycling schemes.
2. It saves a great deal of energy. / It saves a number of resources.
3. There is hardly any green space.
4. Flooding affects a large number of farms. / a large amount of farmland.

Notes for checking

1. A number of: plural countable noun - A number of cities have introduced recycling.
2. A great deal of: uncountable noun - It saves a great deal of energy.
3. Hardly any: very little/few - There is hardly any green space.
4. A large amount of: uncountable noun - Climate change affects a large amount of farmland.